

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over HOOGS et al. (Model-Based Learning of Segmentations) ("Hoogs"). Claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2, which claim was determined to be allowable over Hoogs, even in view of Bachelder (5,974,169) ("Bachelder"). Thus, amended claim 10 which incorporates the limitations of allowable claim 2 is also deemed to be allowable, and the rejection of claim 10 is deemed to be overcome.

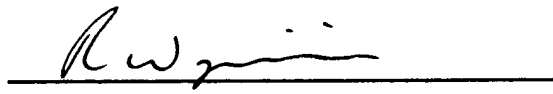
Claims 1-9 have been rejected under Hoogs, in view of Bachelder (5,974,169) ("Bachelder"). Claims 2 and 3 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Equivalently, claim 1 can become allowable by incorporating the limitations of claim 2. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended, and is now allowable for the same reasons that claim 2 was determined to be allowable. Moreover, since claims 3-9 depend from an allowable base claim, they too are deemed to be allowable.

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Amdt. dated 03/17/2005
Reply to Office action of November 17, 2004

Accordingly, Applicants assert that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to phone the undersigned attorney to further the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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